(b) Fresh water shrimp has a good demand in UK, Spain, USA, Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, UAE, Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, etc.

(c) Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) through its Regional Centres in different coastal states promote shrimp farming. Technical staff attached to these field offices assist the local farmers to take up shrimp farming starting from selection of site till the harvest through preparation of project report for availing credit facilities besides extending technical assistance on farm construction, pond preparation seed procurement, selective stocking, pond management, disease control, supplementary fee, marketing etc. MPEDA also extends subsidy assistance for new farm development of prawn hatcheries, and for purchase of seed and feed.

Abolition of Posts of Supervisors in Ordnance Factories

4166. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY :
SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4391 on April 3, 1989 and state :

(a) whether the post of Supervisor 'B' (T) has not yet been merged with Chargeman Grade-II(T);

(b) whether as a result thereof a large number of incumbents in the post of Supervisor 'B' (T) have been continuing in the same position for more than a decade;

(c) whether this has further blocked their future promotions to higher posts;

(d) if so, the facts and reasons therefor; and

(e) the immediate steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present stagnation of some Supervisors 'B' (T) in that grade cannot be attributed to such non-merger.

(c) and (d) An application was filled by some Supervisors 'B' (T) before the Central Administrative Tribunal, Madras claiming re-designation of the post of Supervisor 'B' (T) as Chargemen Grade II(T) and consequential benefits. This was dismissed by the Tribunal. The Tribunal also rejected the applicants' plea that their chances of promotion had been affected due to such non-redesignation. A similar application is subjudice before CAT, Calcutta.

(e) Does not arise for the present in view of the replies to (c) & (d) above.

Financial Allocation to Spices Board

4167. SHRI P. C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the financial allocation to the Spices Board has been increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the allocation made during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91, yearwise;

(d) the amount utilised by the Spices Board during the above years for development of Cardamom, Pepper, Cloves and Nutmeg cultivation;